

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 916

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to commemorate May 2022 as "Silver Alert Awareness Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, 120,000 Tennesseans have a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias that may cause loss of memory and other cognitive functions; and

WHEREAS, the senior population is steadily growing, and the aging of the baby boomer generation will likely increase the numbers of Tennesseans with Alzheimer's by seventeen percent over the next five years; and

WHEREAS, six out of ten individuals with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease will wander at some time during the course of the disease; and

WHEREAS, half of seniors and others with dementia who wander away from home on foot or in a car sustain injuries if they are not found within twenty-four hours; and

WHEREAS, the majority of Tennessee families do not have a plan in place in case their loved one wanders away from home; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly passed legislation to update the Silver Alert law in 2021 that created greater collaboration between local law enforcement and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and incorporated greater cooperation with the media; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 Silver Alert law has resulted in more Tennesseans being returned safely to their families after wandering; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commemorate May 2022 as "Silver Alert Awareness Month" in the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.